

HONORABLE CAROLE MIGDEN
CHAIRWOMAN
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
DISTRICT 1



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PR04:13

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: April 6, 2004

Contact: John Corcoran
(415) 557-0239
Kirsten Boyd
(415) 713-3647

MIGDEN PROVIDES TAX TIPS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Carole Migden, Chairwoman of the California Board of Equalization and member of the Franchise Tax Board, has provided the following information for California taxpayers in advance of the April 15th deadline to file taxes. Chairwoman Migden is available for interview through April 15, 2003.

“There are many resources available to make tax season easier for California taxpayers,” said Chairwoman Migden. “We’re doing everything we can to help making tax filing as pain-free as possible.”

Some of the tax tips follow:

- For answers to questions regarding state personal income tax filing or business entity tax filing, you can contact the Franchise Tax Board at 800-338-0505 or go to the FTB web site at www.ftb.ca.gov.
- If you need an Estimated Tax for Individuals Form 540, you can download one from the FTB web site or get one from your local post office. Many post offices are open for extended hours on April 14th and April 15th. In addition, some post office will have volunteers waiting to take your returns as you drive up, so you don’t even need to get out of your car.
- Filing on-line makes the process easier and faster. You can file on your own home computer using industry software or the web-based system available at www.ftb.ca.gov/FORMS/01_forms/01_5402EZbk.pdf. Additionally, a list of e-file private providers is available at www.ftb.ca.gov.
- The Taxpayer Advocate is an independent representative within the Franchise Tax Board that helps taxpayers resolve problems with the FTB and recommends changes that will prevent the problems from occurring in the future. The Taxpayer Advocate can be reached by fax at (916) 845-6614, or online at http://www.ftb.ca.gov/aboutFTB/taxpayer_advocate/.
- Six-month extensions are available, although this is not an extension of time to pay your taxes. To avoid late payment penalties and interest, you must pay the full amount of tax you owe by April 15th. If you are paying your tax but not yet filing your return, include a completed Payment Voucher for Automatic Extension for Individuals with your April 15th payment.
- New Use Tax line item. If you purchased items subject to California sales tax from out of state, or from an out-of-state vendor and did not pay California sales tax at the time of purchase, you are required to pay use tax. More info available at: www.boe.ca.gov.

#